

a want of virtue or of morals that concerns us as it is a want of knowledge and adequate instruction. The only cure for the lack of virtue which will stand every test is knowledge. Evils which cannot be remedied by the cleansing power of truth are beyond the reach of human agencies. If to know all is to forgive all, so also is it true that to know all is to escape the necessity for being forgiven. The beginning of the victory over this great social scourge will come when its real character is known and understood by all men and women; when the penalties for violations of sexual hygiene are as common knowledge as are the penalties for violations of the common law of the state; when the dangers of falls into adultery are understood as well as are the dangers of physical falls; and when the tinsel is struck from the shoulders of women of loose sexual practises and the pitiable creature beneath is exposed. There is little distinction between the innocent and the guilty; all who suffer through unenlightenment are innocent, for no one is so guilty as to elect unhappiness. At the bottom of these troubles lies the ignorance which it devolves upon society to remedy. Medical science has accumulated the knowledge which is necessary to correct these evils; it remains for the parent, the teacher, and the guardian of public morals to apply it."

It might be objected that, if ignorance is at the bottom of the trouble, how shall we account for the fact that the medical student and the specialist for sexual diseases are so often roaring libertines. Is not the aphorism of the brilliant and profligate Hamilton—man is a more reasoning than reasonable animal, mostly guided by his passions—eternally true? Doctor Warbasse cites Herbert Spencer to the effect that "to be a good animal is the first requisite to success in life, and to be a nation of good animals is the first condition to natural prosperity." Granted, but is not man, like the animal, polygamous by nature, and does he not, like the earth, rotate between Venus and Mars? Reason is certainly not his axis. In order to enter the sanitary kingdom of Doctor Warbasse one must be born again. How much more logical and simpler it would be to discover a vaccine for the venereal plague than to attempt to change human nature.

Still worse, even ridiculous, is the recommendation that the state must demand a clean bill of health from the man who applies for a marriage license.

"But one thing the state can do—and now; it can demand a clean bill of health from the man who applies for a marriage license. The innocent wife is the one who too often reaps the wild oats sown by her husband. The state owes it to her to see to it that the marriage contract with which it is so much interested shall carry with it a guaranty of safety."

Is not this paternalism with a vengeance? In the hygienic republic, in the prophylactic despotism of Doctor Warbasse and others, personal liberty is out of the question. Some of us would perhaps prefer to take our chances with the venereal plague and be free. What an opportunity for graft, and how fortunate for mankind that doctors often disagree!

In his chapter, "Sexual Immorality and the State," Doctor Warbasse asserts that "of the 30,000 prostitutes of New York 10,000 came from respectable homes, the daughters of loving mothers, that there are 10,000 little girls now happily playing with their dolls by their mothers' side who are to grow up and take the places of these when they have been swallowed up by the great consuming maelstrom of the city. It is not for the 10,000 prostitutes that we need be the most concerned—they are lost; but the 10,000 little girls are worth saving."

The critic will be apt to pronounce the deliberate desertion of the 10,000 women more sinned against

than sinning wholly unjustifiable on the part of the physician-author who preaches the power of medicine to save and calls its mission "holy." If it is absurd, and Doctor Warbasse says it is, to arrest the drunkard and clap him into prison, when it is evident that he should be sent to the hospital, why is the bride of a thousand bridegrooms abandoned to the tyranny of the police and the insults of the public responsible for her degradation? Why is she not put upon the Weir Mitchell treatment, subjected to the suggestive influence of a Dubois, instructed in medical truth and taught to reason correctly. Not every Maslôva can expect to find a prince willing to save her. In other words, should not preventive medicine, like hygiene and law, be no respecter of persons?

The physician is seldom a good politician. Perhaps it is because of his great respect for the truth. Doctor Warbasse is no exception to the rule. He flings at the Church, and they abound in his pages, although perhaps natural in a man of science, are, to say the least, impolitic in one who is seeking to convert an ignorant, prejudiced and superstitious public to the principles of hygiene and sanitation, and who demands for the medical profession a large representation in the government. How much wiser it would have been to render unto Medicine what is Medicine's, unto God what is God's! But after all, the above views are only those of a layman, and, in spite of some inconsistencies and the exaggeration common to all ardent reformers the book of Doctor Warbasse is worth more than a hundred decalogues and a thousand sermons. WM. C. TAIT.

Orthopedic Surgery for Practitioners. By Henry Ling Taylor, M. D., the son of C. Fayette Taylor, M. D., a pioneer in the art. Publishers, D. Appleton & Co., New York and London.

The book, according to the author, "aims to give an outline of the essential facts in regard to deformities and crippling affections for daily use in general practice."

As a handbook, or a compend, from which the student may get an inkling, a little of everything and not much of anything, as is apt to be the case with most text-books, the work excels, but it certainly cannot be considered as a serious attempt to offer the present status of the art of Orthopedics adequately to the thinking and practising surgeon.

Speaking generally it is a good book for students who want to "bone up." It gives, usually, in simple language and in a very easy and graphic style, Orthopedic truths with Delphic statements, which should satisfy any examiner.

Again and again he talks as if faith, buckles and any old vibrator left little to be desired in an Orthopedic Armamentarium.

Knowing a little of Dr. Taylor in his work we hardly think that he does himself justice. He appears most unhappy in his treatment on "Causation," especially regarding the cause of the various arthritic conditions. Admitting that the subject is not thoroughly cleared up, still, the loose treatment accorded to this subject could be much more definite and much more exhaustive in no greater space. The chapter on Poliomyelitis is good and is written in such a manner as to interest the family doctor and put him on his guard against delay and the advent of crippling deformities which follow the waste of time and foolish treatment so widely prevalent; and yet in this section we deprecate the advice given to cut the tendons of intact muscles, in cases of Poliomyelitis, in order to correct deformities, such a method giving only apparent temporary improvement and against the opinions of most conservative Orthopedic surgeons. We do not agree with him that in children, at least, synovial tuberculosis may exist for years without affecting cartilages or bone. Our experience also causes us to

differ in the matter of prognosis of knee-joint tuberculosis, which we think is better on this coast. He objects to early operations in bone tuberculosis unless a definite focal lesion is determined, and in view of some experiences we have had lately, his advice is good and timely. We agree with his experience in the Bier treatment of bone and joint tuberculosis, which coincides with ours.

In clubfoot, with inward rotation of the tibia, he does not mention a plan of correction which we think merits the highest praise, which is to make an osteotomy of the tibia and rotate the lower fragment outward on the perpendicular axis. We have found this manœuvre of the greatest value. He gives, however, many practical suggestions in the care of Scoliotics, and gives a place to Jones' method of treatment of contractures due to ischaemic paralysis.

As a whole the general part is suggestive, and, excepting the tangle on rheumatoid affections, of some value to students of medicine and to the family practitioner. At the end of the book, as a sort of appendage, there is a section on technic, and this is the cream and is really reason for the book. If the rest was lost this alone would be worth the price. There is more meat, more good advice, more happy suggestions on braces and methods and splint-making than we have seen in a long time. It is a joy to read what he says about splints.

Quotation after quotation could be given which should be axiomatic in the mind of every surgeon.

Why a man should waste his time in advocating vibrators and electricity and what not like a patent medicine "ad," when he really knows and can teach so much regarding the great mechanical principles, remains a mystery.

S. J. H.

The Renewal of Life. By Thos. Bassett Keyes, M. D. The Tubercle Press. Bureau, Chicago, Ill. 1909-1910.

This book of 206 pages is not, as its title implies, an essay in metaphysics or on religion, but a series of arguments for the use of subcutaneous injections of oil "in the cure and prevention of senility and disease; for the making of the acme of abundant health, stamina, vigor, vitality and constitution; for the cure of consumption and other diseases, particularly those of a chronic nature," a treatment which the author calls "the greatest therapeutic advance that has ever been made." According to the author, "oil injected into the tissues enters the circulation in practically the same way as when strained through the intestines; oil thus injected affects the blood cells directly, by feeding them so that they are enabled to grow, both in size and numbers and increase their strength and working powers."

Such assertions are at variance with the results obtained by recent experimental investigations. Henderson and Crofuth¹ showed that "oil injected subcutaneously is readily and widely distributed through the subcutaneous spaces. Such oil, however, is not transformed *in situ* into adipose tissue. In fact, the tissues react to its presence as to any non-irritating foreign substance. In the blood, lymph and milk it does not appear in any detectable amounts. While the oil is ultimately absorbed and utilized in metabolism, the process is one of extreme slowness. Oil injections in any moderate amounts are therefore practically without nutritive value."

Such false premises, coupled with an unpardonable lack of genuine medical knowledge, explain some of the author's extravagant, not to say ridiculous, statements, especially regarding the germicidal action of oil, the relatively small importance of outdoor life in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, and finally the immunity to consumption through the assimilation of fats in sufficient quantities.

The author's portrait occupies the first page of this odd publication from the Tubercle Press Bureau. The last four pages contain references from the well-known Medical Brief and Pacific Medical Journal.

D. T.

¹ Yamdell Henderson and Edward F. Crofuth—American Journal of Physiology, Vol. XIV, No. 3, page 193.

A Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Medicine. By Arthur R. Edwards, A. M., M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine and of Clinical Medicine, and Dean of the Faculty in the Northwestern Medical School, Chicago; Attending Physician to Mercy, Wesley Hospitals, etc. Lea & Febiger, New York and Philadelphia, 1909.

It may appear surprising that this work has come to a second edition in such a short time, considering the number of similar standard text-books. But on looking into Edwards' book, the reason of its popularity is immediately apparent. For the practicing physician as well as for the student, it has many commendable features. Particular attention is paid to differential diagnosis, the various disease groups being often tabulated. Treatment is gone over in detail, a feature usually wanting in other works. Numerous plates and engravings illustrate the text. The writer has borrowed freely and wisely from other authors, both as to text and illustrations, and gives us a good, readable, clear exposé of his subject.

It is rather remarkable that in the diagnosis of aneurysms, the X-ray is not mentioned, and that exploratory puncture is spoken of as a means of differentiation from solid tumors. The Wasserman test is not alluded to as an aid to the diagnosis of syphilis.

It is furthermore rather astonishing that none of the recent books mention the fact that while many paratyphoid cases cannot clinically be distinguished from typhoid infections, on the other hand, many cases of acute gastro-enteritis prove to be paratyphoid infections, when investigated bacteriologically.

R. B.

Diseases of the Eye. By Chas. H. May, M. D. Publishers, Wm. Wood & Co., New York.

The sixth edition of May's well-known text-book has appeared, and deserves to be well received as it has been heretofore.

As a text-book for students in general medical work, it fills the requirements satisfactorily. The space given to the various divisions of the subject is well balanced, and the whole is concisely and lucidly treated.

There are a few paragraphs which do not express the latest and best line of thought—would mention particularly his treatment of Lachrymal Sac conditions.

E. C. S.